

In the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 15, with the following amended paragraph:

A variety of references further describe the preparation and use of hydrogels for the delivery of medicaments, including those hydrogels based on the combination of polyalkylene glycols and poly(meth)acrylates. See, for instance, US Patent Nos. ~~5,884,039~~ 5,844,039 and 5,739,210, which describe polymers having reversible hydrophobic functionalities, e.g., polymers having Lewis acid and Lewis base segments. The segments are hydrophilic and will either swell or dissolve in water. When incorporated into a polymer, the segments form water-insoluble or hydrophobic complexes. Upon changes in pH, temperature or solvent type, the complexes can dissociate, giving large transitions in viscosity, emulsification ability and mechanical strength. The polymers are said to be useful as reversible emulsifiers, super-absorbing resins, or as coatings for pharmaceutical agents.